

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MUNICH 02359 111102Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 SY-05 ACDA-07 NEA-10 /069 W
-----090584 112140Z /44

R 110945Z AUG 77
FM AMCONSUL MUNICH
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8880
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MUNICH 2359

MBFR FOR PRESEL

MOSCOW PASS DAO

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: UR, US, PINT, PDIP, ASEC
SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTRY PRESENTS NEW CHARGES AGAINST
PRESEL

REF: MOSCOW 11491

1. SUMMARY. THIS MESSAGE SUMMARIZES WHAT LT. COLONEL ROLAND LAJOIE, WHO SERVED AS ASSISTANT MINITARY ASSTACHE IN MOSCOW FROM SEPTEMBER 1973 TO JUNE 1976, IS ABLE TO RECALL ABOUT S. R. KEGELMAN. LAJOIE FIRST MET KEGELMAN WHEN LATTER WORKED IN SERVICE BUREAU OF INTOURIST HOTEL IN KISHINEV. IN COURSE OF HIS SUBSEQUENT OFFICIAL TRAVEL AS ATTACHE, LAJOIE SAW KEGELMAN SEVERL TIMES, INCLUDING ONCE IN MOSCOW WHERE HE INTRODUCED KEGELMAN TO FORMER EMBOFF JOSEPH PRESEL OVER LUNCH AT SMALL RESTAURANT. PRESEL REGARDED KEGELMAN AS "VERY SHADY" CHARACTER. AT NO REPEAT NO TIME DID LAJOI OR PRESEL ASK KEGELMAN ANY QUESTIONS WHICH WERE EVEN VAGUELY CONNECTED WITH MILITARY OR OTHER OFFICIAL MATTERS. END SUMMARY.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MUNICH 02359 111102Z

2. LAJOIE'S INITIAL MEETING WITH KEGELMAN. LAJOIE FIRST MET KEGELMAN IN LATE 1973 OR EARLY 1974 WHEN LATTER WAS HEAD OF SERVICE BUREAU AT INTOURIST HOTEL AT KISHINEV. KEGELMAN SPOKE ENGLISH WELL AND WAS FRIENDLY AND ACCOMMODATING WITOUT BEING INGRATIATING. IN COURSE OF SEVERAL ENCOUNTERS DURING LAJOIE'S STAY IN KISHINEV, KEGELMAN COMPLAINED THAT HE FACED CERTAIN PROFESSIONAL LIMITATIONS BECAUSE HE WAS A JEW. HE

ALSO INDICATED THAT FACT HE WAS JEW WAS PERHAPS REASON WHY HIS DAUGHTER WAS NOT ADMITTED, DESPITE BEING QUALIFIED, TO SPECIAL LANGUAGE SCHOOL IN LENINGRAD.

3. KEGELMAN'S COUSIN. KEGELMAN ALSO TOLD LAJOIE DURING THESE INITIAL CONVERSATIONS IN KISHINEV THAT HE HAD A COUSIN WHO HAD APPLIED TO EMIGRATE TO ISRAEL. COUSIN HAD TURNED IN HIS INTERNAL PASSPORT, BUT NO ACTION WAS TAKEN AND PASSPORT NEVER RETURNED. BECAUSE COUSIN WAS UNABLE TO WORK, HE HAD BECOME BURDEN FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY.

4. KEGELMAN'S REPORTED DIFFICULTIES WITH AUTHORITIES. LAJOIE RECALLS THAT KEGELMAN ALLEGEDLY HAD DIFFICULTIES WITH AUTHORITIES BECAUSE HE OR HIS COUSIN HAD DISCUSSED CONDITIONS OF JEWS IN KISHINEV WITH AN OFFICIAL AMERICAN VISITOR. LAJOIE BELIEVES THIS OFFICIAL VISITOR MAY HAVE BEEN A PERSON ESCORTED BY FORMER EMBOFF MEL LEVITSKY WHO HAD ALSO BECOME ACQUAINTED WITH KEGELMAN IN KISHINEV.

5. A GIFT DICTIONARY. ON A SUBSEQUENT TRIP TO KISHINEV JUST BEFORE LEVITSKY DEPARTED MOSCOW, LAJOIE CARRIED COPY OF WEBSTER ENGLISH-LANGUAGE DICTIONARY TO PRESENT TO KEGELMAN AS GIFT. KEGELMAN WAS NOT REPEAT NOT AT HOTEL, SO LAJOIE LEFT DICTIONARY, WHICH HAD BEEN PROVIDED BY LEVITSKY, WITH ONE OF KEGELMAN'S FELLOW EMPLOYEES. LAJOIE LEFT WORD THAT DICTIONARY WAS TO BE PASSED TO KEGELMAN AS GIFT FROM AN AMERICAN.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MUNICH 02359 111102Z

6. KEGELMAN ALLEGEDLY DEMOTED. WHEN LAJOIE SAW KEGELMAN AGAIN SOMETIME IN 1976, KEGELMAN HAD ALLEGEDLY BEEN DEMOTED TO JOB OF HANDLING INSURANCE NEEDS OF FOREIGN VISITORS TO KISHINEV. KEGELMAN EXPRESSED DISSATISFACTION WITH THIS DEMOTION AND SAID HE WAS COMING TO MOSCOW TO INTERVIEW FOR JOB WITH INGOSTRAKH. HE ASKED LAJOIE IF HE COULD SEE HIM IN MOSCOW, AND LAJOIE RESPONDED AFFIRMATIVELY. WHEN KEGELMAN CAME TO MOSCOW, LAJOIE ARRANGED A MEETING INCLUDING LUCH. KEGELMAN ASKED IF LAJOIE KNEW OF AN AMERICAN COMMERCIAL FIRM WHICH MIGHT USE MAN WITH HIS QUALIFICATIONS. HE ALSO ASKED TO TALK WITH LEVITSKY. LAJOIE INDICATED THAT LEVITSKY HAD RETURNED TO U.S. BUT THAT KEGELMAN MIGHT WISH TO GET IN TOUCH WITH LEVITSKY'S REPLACEMENT WHO WAS ALSO INTERESTED IN SITUATION OF JEWS IN USSR. THEY THEN MADE ARRANGEMENTS FOR SUBSEQUENT MEETING WITH PRESEL.

7. LUNCHEON MEETING WITH JOSEPH PRESEL. WHILE KEGELMAN WAS IN MOSCOW, LAJOIE AND PRESEL MET HIM FOR LUNCH AT SMALL RESTAURANT. DURING LUNCH KEGELMAN AND PRESEL CONVERSED IN GENERAL TERMS ABOUT SITUATION OF JEWS IN KISHINEV. LAJOIE RECALLS KEGELMAN SAYING THAT HE BELIEVED THE KGB COLONEL IN KISHINEV WHO WAS IN POSITION TO TAKE ACTION ON HIS COUSIN'S

VISA COULD BE BRIBED TO RESPOND FAVORABLY. KEGELMAN THOUGH A CASSETTE TAPE RECORDER AND POCKET CALCULATOR WOULD DO JOB, AND ASKED IF EITHER PRESEL OR LAJOIE COULD PURCHASE THESE ITEMS AND GET THEM TO HIM IN KISHINEV. KEGELMAN SAID THAT FOR THIS PURPOSE HE HAD FUNDS IN A BANK IN THE WEST. (LAJOIE BELIEVES BANK ALLEGEDLY IN VIENNA OR BRUSSELS.) LAJOIE AND PRESEL DID NOT REPEAT NOT PROMISE KEGELMAN ANY REPEAT ANY ASSISTANCE.

8. PRESEL'S AND LAJOIE'S ASSESSMENT OF KEGELMAN. LAJOIE REMEMBERS THAT PRESEL CONSIDERED KEGELMAN "VERY SHADY" CHARACTER AND INDICATED THAT HE WAS NOT GOING TO PURSUE THE CONTACT. LAJOIE NOTES THAT AT NO REPEAT NO POINT IN HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH KEGELMAN AND AT NO REPEAT NO POINT DURING THE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 MUNICH 02359 111102Z

SECOND LUNCHEON MEETING IN MOSCOW DID LAJOIE OR PRESEL ASK ANY QUESTIONS EVEN VAGUELY CONNECTED WITH MILITARY OR OTHER OFFICIAL MATTERS.

9. REPORTING THE CONTACT WITH KEGELMAN. LAJOIE DID NOT REPEAT NOT SUBMIT ANY OFFICIAL REPORT ON HIS CONTACT WITH KEGELMAN OR ANY INFORMATION WHICH WAS DEVELOPED AS A RESULT OF IT. LAJOIE BELIEVES SAME HOLDS TRUE WITH PRESEL. CONTACT WITH KEGELMAN WAS REPORTED INTERNALLY WITHIN THE EMBASSY AND THAT WAS IT.

10. LAJOIE DEPARTS FOR INSTITUTE TRIP TO GDR AUGUST 11. HE WILL BE BACK AT HIS DESK ON AUGUST 22. IF DAO MOSCOW DESIRES, LAJOIE WOULD BE WILLING TO SEND SEPARATE REPORT VIA MILITARY TELEGRAPHIC CHANNELS. GILMORE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION, ALLEGATIONS, ESPIONAGE AGENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MUNICH02359
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770290-0164
Format: TEL
From: MUNICH
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770872/aaaacirs.tel
Line Count: 150
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a105a45c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 MOSCOW 11491
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1632743
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FOREIGN MINISTRY PRESENTS NEW CHARGES AGAINST PRESEL
TAGS: PINT, PDIP, ASEC, UR, US, (PRESEL, JOSEPH)
To: STATE MOSCOW
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a105a45c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009